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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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09/729,034

12/04/2000

Cheryl A. Pederson

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32692 7590 11/24/2009
3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY
PO BOX 33427
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EXAMINER

KOPPIKAR, VIVEK D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3686

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

11/24/2009

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte CHERYL A. PEDERSON,
JENNIFER S. MA,
and NANCY J. DYSLIN

Application No. 09/729,034
Technology Center 3686

Mailed: November 23, 2009

Before DELORES LOWE, *Review Team Paralegal*
LOWE, *Review Team Paralegal*.

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was electronically received by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on November 16, 2009. A review of the application revealed that it is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the Examiner to address the following matter requiring attention prior to docketing.

EXAMINER'S ANSWER, MISSING SIGNATURES

An appeal conference is mandatory in all cases in which an acceptable appeal brief has been filed and a determination to move forward on appeal has been made. The participants of the appeal conference should include (1) the examiner charged with preparation of the examiner's answer, (2) a supervisory patent examiner (SPE), and (3) another examiner, known as a conferee, having sufficient experience to be of assistance in the consideration of the merits of the issues on appeal. On the examiner's answer, below the primary examiner's signature, the word "Conferees:" should be included, followed by the typed or printed names of the other two appeal conference participants. These two appeal conference participants must place their initials next to their name. The answer must also include the signature of a TC Director or designee to indicate that he or she approves any new grounds of rejection, if presented.

A review of the file finds that the examiner's answer is missing either at least one typed/ printed name of the appeal conference participants and/or is missing at least one initial or signature to make the record clear the appeal conference was held in accordance with MPEP § 1207.01. Therefore, correction is required.

Accordingly, it is ORDERED that the application is returned to the Examiner:

Accordingly, it is ORDERED that the application be returned to the Examiner:

ORDERED that the application is returned to the Examiner:

- 1) to obtain TC Director signature ; and
- 2) for such further action as may be appropriate.

If there are any questions pertaining to this Order, please contact the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences at 571-272-9797.

/da/

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